GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2391
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2007
FIRE PROOF COACHES
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Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rail Coach Factory send the design of the prototype for the fire proof coaches to the RDSO in Lucknow for approval during the year 2003 as published in "Hindustan Times" dated February 21, 2007;

(b) if so, whether the design has been approved by RDSO;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a) The development of improved furnishing materials with enhanced fire retardant properties, used in the interior of the passenger coaches is a continual exercise. This work is done by RDSO in association with production units viz, RCF and ICF. As part of this exercise, RCF manufactured a sample Second Class coach in 2003 using some new materials in interiors, which had better fire retardant properties. The properties and experience of using these materials were also shared with RDSO to further improve upon the fire worthiness of passenger coaches.

(b) & (c) Based on the experience of RDSO, the two Production Units, the latest International specifications followed by the Railways of developed countries and active participation of the indigenous industry, a number of furnishing materials used in Indian Railway coaches such as floor boards, floor covering, seat cushioning, seat upholstery, Roof & Wall panels, curtains etc. have been developed with upgraded fire retardant properties.

(d) Does not arise.